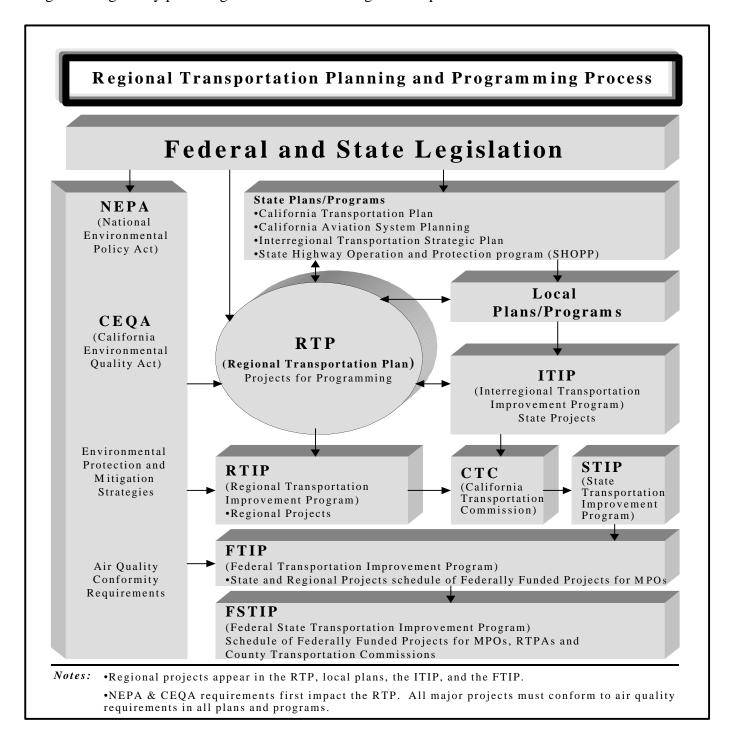


Regional Transportation
Planning and Programming Process

Regional Transportation Planning and Programming Flow Chart

The Regional Transportation Planning and Programming Process is a complex, cooperative process that includes all levels of Government with the opportunity for input from all stakeholders at each level. The following diagram shows the flow of legislation from planning to project development. Following the diagram is a glossary providing a narrative of the diagram components.



Plans, Statutes, and Program Relationships under State and Federal Legislation

Plans

Regional Transportation Plans (RTP): Developed by Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) and Regional Transportation Agencies (RTPAs) to provide a comprehensive view of the transportation problems of a region and recommended solutions. RTPs have a minimum of a 20-year horizon period and are required by State and Federal law. For MPO RTPs, all projects in the FTIP must be consistent with the RTP. In air quality nonattainment areas, RTPs must conform to the State Implementation Plan.

California Transportation Plan (CTP): The CTP is developed by Caltrans and submitted to the Governor. It includes a policy element describing state transportation policies and system performance objectives, a strategies element incorporating broad system concepts and strategies partially synthesized from RTP, and a recommendations element that includes economic forecasts and recommendations to the Legislature and Governor.

California Aviation System Plan (CASP): Prepared by Caltrans every five years as required by PUC 21701. The CASP integrates regional aviation system planning on a statewide basis.

Interregional Transportation Strategic Plan (ITSP): Describes the framework in which the state will carry out its responsibilities for the Interregional Improvement Program (IIP).

Statutes

National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA): Federal legislation which created an environmental review process similar to CEQA, but pertaining only to projects having federal involvement through financing, permitting, or Federal land ownership.

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA): A state-mandated process in which the environmental effects associated with the implementation of a "project" is fully disclosed.

Programs

Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP): A four-year list of proposed transportation projects submitted to the California Transportation commission by the RTPAs. Some RTIP projects may have federal funding components in which case they will also appear in the FTIP once they have been selected for the STIP (see below).

State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP): A four-year list of transportation projects proposed in RTIPs and PSTIPs, which are approved by the California Transportation commission. Those projects that have federal funding components will also appear in the FTIP and FSTIP.

State Highway Operations and Protection Program (SHOPP): A program including projects related to state highway safety and rehabilitation, seismic safety, and traffic operational improvement's. Traffic Systems Management Program: A program of projects (e.g., re-striping, metering, HOV, ridesharing, flexible work schedules, etc.) for better system utilization and operational efficiency.

Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP): A three-year list of all transportation projects proposed for federal funding within the planning area of an MPO. It is developed as a requirement for funding. In are quality nonattainment areas the plan must conform to a State Implementation Plan.

Federal State Transportation Improvement Program (FSTIP): A three year list of transportation projects proposed for funding developed by the State in cooperation with MPOs and in consultation with local non-urbanized governments. The FSTIP includes all FTIP projects as well as other federally funded rural projects.

Interregional Transportation Improvement Program (ITIP, formerly known as PSTIP): Funds capital improvements, on a statewide basis, including capacity increasing projects primarily outside of an urbanized area. Projects are nominated by Caltrans and submitted to the California transportation commission for inclusion in the STIP. The ITIP has a four-year planning horizon and is updated every two years by the CTC.